

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12459 171613Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 IO-10 EUR-12 ARA-06 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03

/074 W

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R 171531Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2443

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12459

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, NI, US

REF : STATE 294635

1. WE APPRECIATE REFTEL GUIDANCE REGARDING U.S. PUBLIC
POSITION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA.

2. PROPOSED RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN SEARCH
FOR U.S. BACKING OF SA INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA (REFTEL PARA-
GRAPH SEVEN) IS PERHAPS THE BEST WE CAN PRODUCE IN THE
CIRCUMSTANCES. HOWEVER, STATEMENT THAT WE HAVE NOT
"INITIATED" ANY DISCUSSIONS LEAVES MOOT WHETHER ANY DISCUSSIONS
HAVE IN FACT BEEN HELD. WHEN WE SAY WE HAVE NO PLANS TO
INITIATE ANY DISCUSSIONS, WE ARE APT TO PRODUCE THE QUESTION
WHY WE REFUSE TO TALK WITH SOUTH AFRICA ABOUT ITS INVOLVEMENT.
WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY FIND MOST USEFUL ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT
COULD PROVIDE FOR USE IN RESPONSE TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
WHY HAS USG FAILED CONDEMN SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION IN
ANGOLA AS IT HAS SOVIET AND CUBAN INVOLVEMENT? DOES U.S.
REFERENCE TO "EXTRA-CONTINENTAL" INTERFERENCE MEAN U.S. TURNS
BLIND EYE TO ROLE OF ZAIRE AND SOUTH AFRICA?
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, INTERVENTION, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, INSTRUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS12459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750438-1176
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751232/aaaabcav.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 294635
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INSTRUCTIONS: US POSITION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, AO, NI, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006